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## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended): A method of managing eritical resource usage comprising:

queuing accesses of at least one associated resource in at least one respective resource queue;

monitoring queue depth in the at least one eritical resource queue for a predetermined high level of resource consumption;

preventing issue of subsequent commands of from a client to a server in a client/server combination in response to a command of the client/server combination that increases resource consumption to the predetermined high level;

queuing an identifier of the client/server combination on a waiting queue; removing the client/server combination identifier from the waiting queue in a queuing order as resource consumption declines; and re-enabling issue of commands of from the client to the server in the client/server combination.

2. (Currently amended): The method according to Claim 1 further comprising:

managing critical resource usage for clients that require a specific resource.

3. (Currently amended): The method according to Claim 1 further comprising:

enabling <u>issue of</u> commands of a client/server combination in order of queuing as resource availability is restored.

4. (Currently amended): The method according to Claim 1 further comprising:

receiving a command from a client to a server that increases consumption of a resource to a high predetermined resource consumption condition; setting a flag indicative of a critical the predetermined resource condition of the resource;

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allowing the command to complete; and rejecting subsequent commands issued by the client to the server.

- 5. (Original): The method according to Claim 1 further comprising: detecting an increase in consumption of a resource to a level above a preselected limit; and
- queuing an identifier of the client/server combination on a waiting queue associated with the resource.
- 6. (Currently amended): The method according to Claim 5 further comprising:

detecting a decline in consumption of the resource;

- removing a client/server combination identifier from the waiting queue in the queue order; and
- enabling subsequent commands of the client/server combination removed from the waiting queue for operation.
- 7. (Original): The method according to Claim 1 implemented in a storage system further comprising:
  - at least one storage controller;
  - at least one host adapter operational as a client;
  - at least one storage array configured as physical storage and logical storage, the logical storage being arranged in logical units (LUNs) operational as servers:
  - at least one adapter/LUN combination operational as a client/server combination; and
  - at least one resource selected from a group consisting of dynamic caching structures, queues, buffers, and remote copy resources.
  - 8. (Currently amended): A storage system comprising:
  - at least one storage controller eapable of controlling data transfers between at least one host adapter and at least one storage array configured as physical storage and logical storage, the logical storage being arranged in logical units (LUNs);

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- at least one resource utilized in the data transfers;
- at least one critical resource queue respectively associated with the at least one resource and capable of queuing that queues accesses to the associated resource; and
- a logic that monitors the at least one critical resource queue for a predetermined high resource consumption condition, identifies an adapter that issues commands to a LUN in an adapter/LUN combination associated with a command that contributes to the high predetermined resource consumption condition, queues the identified adapter/LUN combination on a waiting queue, and prevents issue of subsequent commands of the identified adapter/LUN combination.
- 9. (Currently amended): The storage system according to Claim 8 further comprising:
  - a logic that detects a decline in resource consumption, dequeues the adapter/LUN combination identifier from the waiting queue, and re-enables commands of the dequeued adapter/LUN combination for operation.
  - 10. (Original): The storage system according to Claim 8 further comprising: at least one resource selected from a group consisting of dynamic caching structures, queues, buffers, and remote copy resources.
- 11. (Currently amended): The storage system according to Claim 8 further comprising:
  - a logic that manages eritical resource usage for host adapters that require a specific resource.
- 12. (Currently amended): The storage system according to Claim 8 further comprising:
  - a logic that detects receipt of a command from an adapter to a LUN that increases consumption of a resource above a preselected limit, sets a flag indicative of a critical predefined condition of the resource, allows the received command to complete, and rejects subsequent commands issued by the adapter to the LUN.

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- 13. (Original): The storage system according to Claim 8 further comprising: a logic that detects an increase consumption of a resource above the preselected limit, and queues an identifier of the adapter/LUN combination on a waiting queue associated with the resource.
- 14. (Currently amended): The storage system according to Claim 13 further comprising:
  - a logic that detects a decline in consumption of the resource, removes an adapter/LUN combination identifier from the waiting queue in the queue order, and enables subsequent commands of the adapter/LUN combination removed from the waiting queue for operation.
  - 15. (Currently amended): A data handling system comprising: at least one controller eapable of controlling data transfers between at least one client and at least one server;
  - at least one resource utilized in the data transfers;
  - at least one critical resource queue respectively associated with the at least one resource and capable of queuing that queues accesses to the associated resource; and
  - a logic that monitors the at least one eritical resource queue for a predetermined high resource consumption condition, identifies a source that issues commands to a client in a source/client combination associated with a command that contributes to the high predetermined resource consumption condition, queues the identified source/client combination on a waiting queue, and prevents issue of subsequent commands of the identified source/client combination.
- 16. (Currently amended): The system according to Claim 15 further comprising:
  - a logic that detects receipt of a command from a client to a server that increases consumption of a resource above a preselected limit, sets a flag indicative of a eritical predefined condition of the resource, allows the received command to complete, and rejects subsequent commands issued by the client to the server.

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- 17. (Original): The system according to Claim 15 further comprising:
- a logic that detects an increase in consumption of a resource above the preselected limit, queues an identifier of the client/server combination on a waiting queue associated with the resource.
- 18. (Currently amended): The system according to Claim 17 further comprising:
  - a logic that detects a decline in consumption of the resource, removes a client/server combination identifier from the waiting queue in the queue order, and enables subsequent commands of the client/server combination removed from the waiting queue for operation.
  - 19. (Currently amended): An article of manufacture comprising:
  - a controller tangible processor usable medium having a computable readable program code embodied therein for managing critical resource usage, the computable readable program code further comprising:
    - a code causing the controller to queue accesses of at least one associated resource in at least one respective resource queue;
    - a code eapable of causing the controller to monitor for a predefined high level of resource consumption;
    - a code eapable of causing the controller to prevent issue of subsequent commands of from a client to a server in a client/server combination in response to a command of the client/server combination that increases resource consumption to the predefined high level;
    - a code eapable of causing the controller to queue an identifier of the client/server combination on a waiting queue;
    - a code eapable of causing the controller to remove the client/server combination identifier from the waiting queue in a queuing order as resource consumption declines; and
    - a code capable of causing the controller to enable issue of commands of from the client to the server in the client/server combination.

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- 20. (Currently amended): The article of manufacture according to Claim 19 further comprising:
  - a code eapable of causing the controller to manage eritical resource usage for clients that require a specific resource;
  - a code eapable of causing the controller to receive a command from a client to a server that increases consumption of a resource above a preselected limit;
  - a code capable of causing the controller to set a flag indicative of a critical condition of the resource;
  - a code eapable of causing the controller to allow the command to complete; and a code eapable of causing the controller to reject subsequent commands issued by
    - the client to the server.
- 21. (Currently amended): The article of manufacture according to Claim 19 further comprising:
  - a code capable of causing the controller to detect an increase in consumption of a resource above a preselected limit;
  - a code eapable of causing the controller to queue an identifier of the client/server combination on a waiting queue associated with the resource;
  - a code eapable of causing the controller to detect a decline in consumption of the resource;
  - a code eapable of causing the controller to remove a client/server combination identifier from the waiting queue in the queue order; and
  - a code eapable of causing the controller to enable subsequent commands of the client/server combination removed from the waiting queue for operation.

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